

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Akihiro Niki et al.

Serial No. 10/089,044

Filed March 26, 2002



Attn: BOX PCT

Docket No. 2002\_0329A

Confirmation No. 9566

THE USE OF THERMOPLASTIC ELASTOMER,  
AND THE PRODUCTION METHOD THEREOF  
[Corresponding to PCT/JP00/06812 Filed September  
29, 2000]

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. .

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

- 1b.  This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:
- (1)  the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
- (2)  the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c.  This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:  
**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**  
**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**
2. It is hereby certified
- a.  that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b.  that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3.  Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

- a.  a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b.  a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c.  the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
  - d.  the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e.  the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5.  A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Akihiro Niki et al.

By

Warren Cheek

Warren M. Cheek, Jr.  
Registration No. 33,367  
Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
July 10, 2002

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: July 10, 2002

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
2002\_0329ASERIAL NO.  
10/089,044APPLICANT  
Akihiro Niki et al.FILING DATE  
March 26, 2002

GROUP



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER<br>- INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|------------------------|----|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|                        | AA |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                        | AB |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                        | AC |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                        | AD |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE    | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES      NO |
|--|----|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|  | AE | 2-88632         | 3/1990  | JP      |       |          | Abst.                      |
|  | AF | 52-121699       | 10/1977 | JP      |       |          | Abst.                      |
|  | AG | 59-111847       | 6/1984  | JP      |       |          |                            |
|  | AH | 0 11 360        | 6/1984  | EP      |       |          | Corresponds to<br>Ref AG   |
|  | AI | 62-290714       | 12/1987 | JP      |       |          | Abst.                      |
|  | AJ | 8-311233        | 11/1996 | JP      |       |          | Abst.                      |
|  | AK | 57-133032       | 8/1982  | JP      |       |          | Abst.                      |
|  | AL | 9-13277         | 1/1997  | JP      |       |          | Abst.                      |
|  | AM | 5-337164        | 12/1993 | JP      |       |          | Abst.                      |
|  | AN | 5-317411        | 12/1993 | JP      |       |          | Abst.                      |

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|  |    |  |
|--|----|--|
|  | AO |  |
|  | AP |  |
|  | AQ |  |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED